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## AGRICULTURAL REPORT.

*From the 20th September to the 20th October, 1813.*

THE fine weather which set in about the middle of last month continued with very little intermission for several weeks, and afforded a good opportunity to secure the grain. Some heavy rains have fallen in the course of the last two weeks, but the greater part happening at night, very little interruption was occasioned to finishing the last of the harvest in the late districts.

The business of raising the potato crops seems now to occupy the principal attention of the farmers; a few nights frost having completely destroyed the stalks, there can be no good end answered by letting them remain longer in the ground, when the soil is sufficiently dry to allow the roots to be taken out clean. The practice of raising potatoes by the plough is beginning to make its way among the farmers; the expedition with which it can be done, and the small expence attending it, are circumstances which ought to give it a decided preference over every other mode, since it is well known to every farmer who cultivates any considerable quantity of land, that the difficulty of procuring labourers, and the great expence their wages occasion, are serious obstacles to his progress, and a great drawback on the profits of his farm.

The prices of grain have rather lowered within the last three weeks, but are a little on the rise again.

## COMMERCIAL REPORT.

COMMERCIAL Reporters, to give a faithful representation of the present state of trade, must, at the risque of repetition, even to satiety, pronounce it again and again to be in a sickly condition: for the partial and apparent revivals partake more of the unequal accession of fever, than of a healthful action. The war deranges the steady progress of commercial enterprize, and completely "puts the times out of joint." Yet no class of men are more under the war-mania, and the unnatural dread of peace, from the erroneous idea that under present circumstances it is impracticable, than merchants. Perhaps the uncertainties attendant on the present state of trade, by giving hopes and fears, furnish a zest similar to that felt by gamblers; for the operations of commerce are too often assimilated to the fluctuations of a gambling speculation.\*

\* The following remarks on commerce, as connected with war, are extracted from the Liverpool Mercury. They show at least that our opinions are not singular.

"Commerce is undoubtedly in itself a great national benefit. It may perhaps be safely asserted, that no people were ever truly enlightened and independent without it. To that self-confidence which is fostered by trade, Britain owes the establishment of some of the best principles of her constitution. Trade empowered the man who held no landed property, to contend against the subjections of the feudal law, and gradually to grow into a participation of all those rights, which the British constitution had, at first, bestowed rather partially, than generally. It is, therefore, not against the commercial spirit that we contend, but against that commercial monopoly, which is maintained by an expensive and sanguinary war, which, connected with the finances of the state, becomes a support of public corruption; a commercial monopoly of which the capital subsists only in floating paper, itself sustained by forcible acts of the legislature, and which is, nevertheless, daily depreciating: it is against such a system that our pens are directed, because while it lasts, we are persuaded, that such trade as really conduces to our national prosperity can never be obtained.

"It has been one of the leading objects with Bonaparte to destroy the trade of this country with the continent, and to accomplish that point, he has resorted to the most arbitrary and tyrannical procedure. As far as his power or his influence could be extended he has striven to extinguish all commercial interests, in any way connected with the commerce of Britain. His continued successes had given audacity to his despotism, and